

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
U.S. Application No.: 10/553,868
Attorney Docket No.: Q75352

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 8 with the following amended paragraph:

During the graphitization process, an element such as B, Al, Be or Si, preferably B, promoting the crystallization of carbon may be added to the vapor grown carbon fiber, to thereby produce vapor grown carbon fiber, wherein the carbon crystals of the fiber contain a small amount (0.001 to 5 mass%, preferably 0.01 to 2 mass%) of a crystallization promoting element ~~(WO00/585326)~~(WO00/58536).